



Gp/3721
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Frederic P. Field et al.
Serial No.: 10/046,453
Filing Date: 10/19/2001
Title: SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT
AND METHOD OF USE
Group Art Unit: 3721
Examiner: Unknown
Attorney's Docket No.: ONUX-16

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JUN 13 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make the following documents of record in the above-identified application:

U.S. Patents

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 2613562 issued Oct. 14, 1952 to Clark.
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 2897820 issued Aug. 4, 1959 to Tauber.
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 3404677 issued Oct. 8, 1968 to Springer.
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 3470875 issued Oct. 7, 1969 to Johnson.
- (5) U.S. Patent No. 3584628 issued Jun. 15, 1971 to Green.
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 3802438 issued Apr. 9, 1974 to Wolvek.
- (7) U.S. Patent No. 3807407 issued Apr. 30, 1974 to Schweizer.
- (8) U.S. Patent No. 3841521 issued Oct. 15, 1974 to Jarvik.
- (9) U.S. Patent No. 3877570 issued Apr. 15, 1975 to Barry.
- (10) U.S. Patent No. 3959960 issued Jun. 1, 1976 to Santos.
- (11) U.S. Patent No. 4006747 issued Feb. 8, 1977 to Kronenthal et al.
- (12) U.S. Patent No. 4027608 issued Jun. 7, 1977 to Arbuckle.
- (13) U.S. Patent No. 4109658 issued Aug. 29, 1978 to Hughes.
- (14) U.S. Patent No. 4204541 issued May 27, 1980 to Kapitanov.
- (15) U.S. Patent No. 4235177 issued Nov. 25, 1980 to Arbuckle.
- (16) U.S. Patent No. 4258716 issued Mar. 31, 1981 to Sutherland.
- (17) U.S. Patent No. 4453661 issued Jun. 12, 1984 to Genyk et al.

ONUX-16

- (18) U.S. Patent No. 4462404 issued Jul. 31, 1984 to Schwarz et al.
- (19) U.S. Patent No. 4474181 issued Oct. 2, 1984 to Schenck.
- (20) U.S. Patent No. 4553543 issued Nov. 19, 1985 to Amarasinghe.
- (21) U.S. Patent No. 4557265 issued Dec. 10, 1985 to Andersson.
- (22) U.S. Patent No. 4583541 issued Apr. 22, 1986 to Barry.
- (23) U.S. Patent No. 4602636 issued Jul. 29, 1986 to Noiles.
- (24) U.S. Patent No. 4607637 issued Aug. 26, 1986 to Berggren et al.
- (25) U.S. Patent No. 4624257 issued Nov. 25, 1986 to Berggren et al.
- (26) U.S. Patent No. 4643190 issued Feb. 17, 1987 to Heimberger.
- (27) U.S. Patent No. 4644651 issued Feb. 24, 1987 to Jacobsen.
- (28) U.S. Patent No. 4747358 issued May 31, 1988 to Moll et al.
- (29) U.S. Patent No. 4760848 issued Aug. 2, 1988 to Hasson.
- (30) U.S. Patent No. 4763669 issued Aug. 16, 1988 to Jaeger.
- (31) U.S. Patent No. 4803984 issued Feb. 14, 1989 to Narayanan et al.
- (32) U.S. Patent No. 4819635 issued Apr. 11, 1989 to Shapiro.
- (33) U.S. Patent No. 4890615 issued Jan. 2, 1990 to Caspari et al.
- (34) U.S. Patent No. 4901721 issued Feb. 20, 1990 to Hakki.
- (35) U.S. Patent No. 4915107 issued Apr. 10, 1990 to Rebuffat et al.
- (36) U.S. Patent No. 4923461 issued May 8, 1990 to Caspari et al.
- (37) U.S. Patent No. 4935027 issued Jun. 19, 1990 to Yoon.
- (38) U.S. Patent No. 4938214 issued Jul. 3, 1990 to Specht et al.
- (39) U.S. Patent No. 4941466 issued Jul. 17, 1990 to Romano.
- (40) U.S. Patent No. 4955887 issued Sep. 11, 1990 to Zirm.
- (41) U.S. Patent No. 4957498 issued Sep. 18, 1990 to Caspari et al.
- (42) U.S. Patent No. 5002564 issued Mar. 26, 1991 to McGregor et al.
- (43) U.S. Patent No. 5004469 issued Apr. 2, 1991 to Palmieri et al.
- (44) U.S. Patent No. 5133735 issued Jul. 28, 1992 to Slater et al.
- (45) U.S. Patent No. 5172256 issued Dec. 15, 1992 to Smith et al.
- (46) U.S. Patent No. 5174300 issued Dec. 29, 1992 to Bales et al.
- (47) U.S. Patent No. 5192298 issued Mar. 9, 1993 to Smith et al.
- (48) U.S. Patent No. 5217465 issued Jun. 8, 1993 to Steppe.
- (49) U.S. Patent No. 5219357 issued Jun. 15, 1993 to Honkanen et al.
- (50) U.S. Patent No. 5234453 issued Aug. 10, 1993 to Smith et al.
- (51) U.S. Patent No. 5242459 issued Sep. 7, 1993 to Buelna.
- (52) U.S. Patent No. 5261917 issued Nov. 16, 1993 to Hasson et al.
- (53) U.S. Patent No. 5290284 issued Mar. 1, 1994 to Adair.
- (54) U.S. Patent No. 5304183 issued Apr. 19, 1994 to Gourlay et al.
- (55) U.S. Patent No. 5306281 issued Apr. 26, 1994 to Beurrier.
- (56) U.S. Patent No. 5308353 issued May 3, 1994 to Beurrier.
- (57) U.S. Patent No. 5308357 issued May 3, 1994 to Lichtman.
- (58) U.S. Patent No. 5324308 issued Jun 28, 1994 to Pierce.

- (59) U.S. Patent No. 5333625 issued Aug. 2, 1994 to Klein.
- (60) U.S. Patent No. 5356424 issued Oct. 18, 1994 to Buzerak et al.
- (61) U.S. Patent No. 5370658 issued Dec. 6, 1994 to Scheller et al.
- (62) U.S. Patent No. 5372604 issued Dec. 13, 1994 to Trott.
- (63) U.S. Patent No. 5386741 issued Feb. 7, 1995 to Rennex.
- (64) U.S. Patent No. 5411522 issued May 2, 1995 to Trott.
- (65) U.S. Patent No. 5417701 issued May 23, 1995 to Holmes.
- (66) U.S. Patent No. 5423821 issued Jun. 13, 1995 to Pasque.
- (67) U.S. Patent No. 5431670 issued Jul. 11, 1995 to Holmes.
- (68) U.S. Patent No. 5437681 issued Aug. 1, 1995 to Meade et al.
- (69) U.S. Patent No. 5474554 issued Dec. 12, 1995 to Ku.
- (70) U.S. Patent No. 5478093 issued Dec. 26, 1995 to Eibl et al.
- (71) U.S. Patent No. 5496334 issued Mar. 5, 1996 to Klundt et al.
- (72) U.S. Patent No. 5498256 issued Mar. 12, 1996 to Furnish.
- (73) U.S. Patent No. 5500001 issued Mar. 19, 1996 to Trott.
- (74) U.S. Patent No. 5501683 issued Mar. 26, 1996 to Trott.
- (75) U.S. Patent No. 5501688 issued Mar. 26, 1996 to Whiteside et al.
- (76) U.S. Patent No. 5501692 issued Mar. 26, 1996 to Riza.
- (77) U.S. Patent No. 5501698 issued Mar. 26, 1996 to Roth et al.
- (78) U.S. Patent No. 5571119 issued Nov. 5, 1996 to Atala.
- (79) U.S. Patent No. 5618306 issued Apr. 8, 1997 to Roth et al.
- (80) U.S. Patent No. 5674230 issued Oct. 7, 1997 to Tovey et al.
- (81) U.S. Patent No. 5690653 issued Nov. 25, 1997 to Richardson et al.
- (82) U.S. Patent No. 5709693 issued Jan. 20, 1998 to Taylor.
- (83) U.S. Patent No. 5720766 issued Feb. 24, 1998 to Zang et al.
- (84) U.S. Patent No. 5728112 issued Mar. 17, 1998 to Yoon.
- (85) U.S. Patent No. 5759188 issued Jun. 2, 1998 to Yoon.
- (86) U.S. Patent No. 5766186 issued Jun. 16, 1998 to Faraz et al.
- (87) U.S. Patent No. 5766217 issued Jun. 16, 1998 to Christy.
- (88) U.S. Patent No. 5776150 issued Jul. 7, 1998 to Nolan et al.
- (89) U.S. Patent No. 5799672 issued Sep. 1, 1998 to Hansbury.
- (90) U.S. Patent No. 5814054 issued Sep. 29, 1998 to Kortenbach et al.
- (91) U.S. Patent No. 5830234 issued Nov. 3, 1998 to Wojciechowicz et al.
- (92) U.S. Patent No. 3545444 issued Dec. 8, 1970 to Green
- (93) U.S. Patent No. 3858783 issued Jan. 7, 1975 to Kapitanov et al.
- (94) U.S. Patent No. 4103690 issued Aug. 1, 1978 to Harris
- (95) U.S. Patent No. 4306560 issued Dec. 22, 1981 to Harris
- (96) U.S. Patent No. 4966600 issued Oct. 30, 1990 to Songer et al.
- (97) U.S. Patent No. 5417700 issued May 23, 1995 to Egan
- (98) U.S. Patent No. 5499990 issued Mar. 19, 1996 to Schülken et al.

Other References

(99) Auto Suture Company, VCS Clip Applier System, undated.

Copies of these documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (six pages), were previously submitted to, or cited by, the Office in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/818,300. Applicants respectfully request that these documents be fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application and printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants also respectfully request that a copy of Form PTO-1449 (six pages), as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. If for any reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted by the Examiner by telephone in order that any deficiencies may be expeditiously remedied.

Please charge any additional fees due in connection with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this submission is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Thank you.

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22313-1450, ON:

June 5, 2003

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

James A. Sheridan

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

(SIGNATURE)

June 5, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Sheridan 6/5/03

James A. Sheridan
Registration No. 43,114
Pandiscio & Pandiscio
470 Totten Pond Road
Waltham, MA 02154
Tel. (781) 290-0060

TS/ONUX16.IDS

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A circular black and white stamp. The outer ring contains the text "OIPÉ JC59" at the top and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" at the bottom. In the center, the date "JUN 09 2003" is stamped diagonally.

Complete if Known

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 6

Application Number	10/046,453
Filing Date	10/19/2001
First Named Inventor	Frederic P. Field et al.
Group Art Unit	3721
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	ONUX-16

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2613562		Clark	10-14-1952	
		2897820		Tauber	08-04-1959	
		3404677		Springer	10-08-1968	
		3470875		Johnson	10-07-1969	
		3584628		Green	06-15-1971	
		3802438		Wolvek	04-09-1974	
		3807407		Schweizer	04-30-1974	
		3841521		Jarvik	10-15-1974	
		3877570		Barry	04-15-1975	
		3959960		Santos	06-01-1976	
		4006747		Kronenthal et al.	02-08-1977	
		4027608		Arbuckle	06-07-1977	
		4109658		Hughes	08-29-1978	
		4204541		Kapitanov	05-27-1980	
		4235177		Arbuckle	11-25-1980	
		4258716		Sutherland	03-13-1981	
		4453661		Genyk et al.	06-12-1984	
		4462404		Schwarz et al.	07-31-1984	
		4474181		Schenck	10-02-1984	
		4553543		Amarasinghe	11-19-1985	

[illegible]

Date	
Considered	

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST..16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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Application Number	10/046,453
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Sheet 2 of 6

Attorney Docket Number **ONUX-16**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ¹ (if known)			
		4557265		Andersson	12-10-1985	
		4583541		Barry	04-22-1986	
		4602636		Noiles	07-29-1986	
		4607637		Berggren et al.	08-26-1986	
		4624257		Berggren et al.	11-25-1986	
		4643190		Heimberger	02-17-1987	
		4644651		Jacobsen	02-24-1987	
		4747358		Moll et al.	05-31-1988	
		4760848		Hasson	08-02-1988	
		4763669		Jaeger	08-16-1988	
		4803984		Narayanan et al.	02-14-1989	
		4819635		Shapiro	04-11-1989	
		4890615		Caspari et al.	01-02-1990	
		4901721		Hakki	02-20-1990	
		4915107		Rebuffat et al.	04-10-1990	
		4923461		Caspari et al.	05-08-1990	
		4935027		Yoon	06-19-1990	
		4938214		Specht et al.	07-03-1990	
		4941466		Romano	07-17-1990	
		4955887		Zirm	09-11-1990	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

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Signature**

Date _____

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/046,453
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First Named Inventor	Frederic P. Field et al.
Group Art Unit	3721
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number.	ONUX-16

Sheet	4	of	6
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Attorney Docket Number. ONUX-16

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code* (if known)			
		5370658		Scheller et al.	12-06-1994	
		5372604		Trott	12-13-1994	
		5386741		Rennex	02-07-1995	
		5411522		Trott	05-02-1995	
		5417701		Holmes	05-23-1995	
		5423821		Pasque	06-13-1995	
		5431670		Holmes	07-11-1995	
		5437681		Meade et al.	08-01-1995	
		5474554		Ku	12-12-1995	
		5478093		Eibl et al.	12-26-1995	
		5496334		Klundt et al.	03-05-1996	
		5498256		Furnish	03-12-1996	
		5500001		Trott	03-19-1996	
		5501683		Trott	03-26-1996	
		5501688		Whiteside et al.	03-26-1996	
		5501692		Riza	03-26-1996	
		5501698		Roth et al.	03-26-1996	
		5571119		Atala	11-05-1996	
		5618306		Roth et al.	04-08-1997	
		5674230		Tovey et al.	10-07-1997	

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Date	
Considered	

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Sheet

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of

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Application Number

10/046,453

Filing Date

10/19/2001

First Named Inventor

Frederic P. Field et al.

Group Art Unit

3721

Examiner Name

Unknown

Attorney Docket Number

UNIX-16



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5690653		Richardson et al.	11-25-1997	
		5709693		Taylor	01-20-1998	
		5720766		Zang et al.	02-24-1998	
		5728112		Yoon	03-17-1998	
		5759188		Yoon	06-02-1998	
		5766186		Faraz et al.	06-16-1998	
		5766217		Christy	06-16-1998	
		5776150		Nolan et al.	07-07-1998	
		5799672		Hansbury	09-01-1998	
		5814054		Kortenbach et al.	09-29-1998	
		5830234		Wojciechowicz et al.	11-03-1998	
		3,545,444		David T. Green	12-08-1970	
		3,858,783		Kapitanov et al.	01-07-1975	
		4,103,690		Harris	08-01-1978	
		4,306,560		Harris	12-22-1981	
		4,966,600		Songer et al.	10-30-1990	
		5,417,700		Egan	05-23-1995	
		5,499,990		Schulken et al.	03-19-1996	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Date Considered

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/046,453
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Filing Date	10/19/2001
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First Named Inventor	Frederic P. Field et al.
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Group Art Unit	3721
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Examiner Name	Unknown
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Attorney Docket Number	ONUX-16
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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner
Initials*Cite
No. 1

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

17

Auto Suture Company, VCS Clip Applier System, undated.

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Signature**

Date _____

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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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